

Message Text

SECRET

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51

ACTION SS-25

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R 201152Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 022
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMCONSUL ASMARA

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 1472

EXDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, ET, SU

SUBJECT: TEXTS DECISIONS RECENT ELF CONFERENCE BEING
FORWARDED DEPARTMENT

1. DURING HIS CALL JUNE 19, ETHIOPIAN CHARGE TEFERRA SHAWL SHOWED ME ARABIC TEXTS OF WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS FULL RECORD RESULTS RECENT SECOND ELF NATIOANL CONFERENCE INSIDE ERITREA. SAID HE HAD BEEN LOANED RECORD BY RELIABLE SOURCE AND WISHED MAKE COPY TO TAKE BACK TO ADDIS (WHERE HE ALREADY SERVING AS PRESS "AND POLITICAL" OFFICER ON STAFF EPMG CHAIRMAN TEFERI BENTI). HE PERMITTED US MAKE ADDITIONAL COPY.

2. CURSORY REVIEW BY ARABIC SPEAKING EMBOFF INDICATES THAT DOCUMENTS INCLUDE TWO MAIN PAPERS ENTITLED: "POLITICAL DECISIONS" AND "INTERNAL MATTERS". FORMER INCLUDES PARAGRAPHS RECORDING ELF SUPPORT FOR IRAQ, SYRIA, PDRY, SUDAN, LIBYA, PLO, OMAN LIBERATION FRONT AND SOMALIA, PLUS ITEMS ON "SOCIALIST CAMP", AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA, INDOCHINA, AND "INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATIONS". OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS STATEMENT IN SUDAN PARAGRAPH THAT ELF "WELCOMES NIMEIRI'S PEACE INITIATIVE". DOCUMENT EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH SOMALIA AND ITS "STRUGGLE TO COMPLETE THE UNITY OF ITS
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TERRITORY" AND WITHSOME PEOPLE OF DJIBOUTI TO RID THEMSELVES

OF FRENCH "OCCUPATION ARMY". "INTERNAL MATTERS" DOCUMENT INCLUDES ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAM DECIDED ON AT CONFERENCE; FINAL COMMUNIQUE AND POLITICAL PROGRAM. NUMBER ADDITIONAL PAPERS ARE ALSO INCLUDED ON SPECIAL SUBJECTS, E.G., CURRENT SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA; ETHIOPIAN "IMPERIALISM" AND AMERICAN INTERESTS IN ERITREA AND "THE SOCIAL CLASSES OF ERITREA AND THE STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE".

3. THOUGH POSSIBILITY THAT THIS IS SOME EPMG DISINFORMATION EXERCISE CAN PERHAPS NOT BE ENTIRELY DISMISSED, WE HAVE NO REASON DOUBT SHAWL'S ASSERTION THAT DOCUMENT GENUINE. THIS CONNECTION, SHAWL RETURNED HERE FOR FIVE DAYS THIS WEEK FROM HIS NEW JOB. CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE SUGGESTS BRIEF TRIP COULD BE PARTLY DESIGNED PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY ACQUIRE COPY FOREGOING PAPERS. WE NOTE THAT HEROUY TEDLA, DEFEATED CANDIDATE FOR ELF LEADERSHIP, WHO IS NOW REPORTEDLY IN KHARTOUM (KHARTOUM 1466), WAS SCHOOLMATE OF SHAWL'S.

4. EMBASSY HAS INSUFFICIENT AMERICAN STAFF TO PREPARE FULL TRANSLATIONS THIS EXTENSIVE RECORD BUT BELIEVES PAPERS ARE LIKELY TO PROVE OF MORE THAN ROUTINE INTERSIST. WE ACCORDINGLY ARE PLANNING POUCH THEM JUNE 23 TO INR/DDR, RNA (FOR DIRECTOR CFJONES) FOR DETAILED EXAMINATION AND TRANSLATION. ON ASSUMPTION DOCUMENTS BELIEVED GENUINE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE TWO COPIES OF WHATEVER TRANSLATIONS ARE MADE.
BREWER

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